

*EGREMONT GREEN COMMITTEE  
MEETING MINUTES May 13, 2021*

*The meeting opened at 4:02.*

**Members present: Juliette Haas,  
Emily Eyre (co-chair), Pat Konecky  
(co-chair), Marj Wexler, Corinna  
Barnard, Sharon Waskow  
Also present: Stephanie Blumenthal,  
Bonnie Greenwood**

Minutes of the April 7, 2021, meeting were accepted unanimously after Marj added one point of clarification.

Members and guests introduced themselves.

**Clothing Donation Bin:** Stephanie presented the possibility of the committee recommending a no-fee Apparel Impact clothing donation bin at the Transfer Station. The company, she said, is based in New England, veteran-owned and in operation for more than 40 years. It comes to participating sites and empties the bins and makes money on resale. The phone number for a site visit, to being the process, is 603-505-4779. She noted that Mobil is a sponsor of the company by dint of having the recycling bins at their stations. Donations must be dry, have no odor or mold. Juliette said that currently she cleans out the clothing bin at the Town Transfer Station about once a week and takes it to Goodwill. Marj noted that before the swap shop Egremont had a bin that shredded everything; no salvage involved. She added that while it would be good to relieve Juliette of the task, the down side was that people do find clothing at the Swap Shop. Pat said the next step would be to look at the

website and decide if the committee wants to recommend having a bin at the Transfer Station. Juliette noted that she would have to run the idea past the Town's highway superintendent.

Stephanie also raised the subject of Extended Producer Responsibility. She is trying to get a state legislator involved and has made calls to other local representatives. Pat encouraged Stephanie to provide some links for more information about EPR.

Stephanie suggested a quarterly catchup call with a designated member of the Egremont green committees to foster coordination between the green efforts of Egremont and Sheffield.

### **Sustainability Coordinator Report**

Juliette said the Average Market Value for recyclables has recently risen as high as \$79.75 a ton. If the AMV reaches \$92 the Town would reach a break-even point with hauling and processing fees. With any further rise recyclables would start generating revenue for the Town once again, as they have in the past.

**Berkshire Edge:** The group discussed Sharon and Pat's revised column on money and environment and agreed that Pat would assume editor responsibility for it and that Corinna would ship it to the Edge. A follow up article on the rain barrel project comes next.

The standing queue:

- 1) Virtual tool library – about a community effort and sharing in general.
- 2) MRF town materials and the shifts underway locally in the recycling industry.
- 3) Rollout for rebates for EVs are back from state.
- 4) Annual article about the Town's most recent "Waste Line" figures.

**Pill Bottle Collection Program:** Emily said that after her Berkshire Edge article about the program spurred someone in New Marlborough to contact Marj and the Salisbury Rotary Club her and are “on fire” about starting their own program.

**Town Hall Campus Renewal:** Pat and Emily met with Alexis Wreden Fakelman for initial input about about a possible redesign of Town Hall campus. Funds are currently limited.

**Mass DEP Recycle & Reuse:** Juliette is going to be the Green Committee participant on this effort.

**New Business:**

**--Accessing Green Committee's email box** [egremont.green@gmail.com](mailto:egremont.green@gmail.com)

Currently Corinna, Marj and Emily can access the inbox but ideally it would be available to the entire committee. The account is currently tied to Corinna's personal email.

**--Recording Secretary:** Pat and Emily said they would discuss the possibility of taking over the duty.

**--Rain Barrels** About 65 barrels were sold and there was a high degree of enthusiasm. Emily said the committee will consider running it again.

*The next meeting with be held on June 17 at 4pm.*

The meeting adjourned at 5:05.

Respectfully submitted,  
Corinna Barnard